

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 180643
ORIGIN DLOS-09

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CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00
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TRSE-00 H-01 INR-07 INT-05 IO-13 JUSE-00 L-03
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N.A.

TAGS: PLOS

SUBJECT: LOS: AMBASSADOR RICHARDSON'S PRESS STATEMENT ON
SIXTH SESSION OF LOS CONFERENCE

REF: STATE 169685; PARIS 21408

1. IN RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS AT HIS JULY 20 PRESS CONFERENCE,
AMBASSADOR RICHARDSON MADE THE FOLLOWING POINTS ON THE
PROBLEMS OF THE PREPARATION OF THE DEEP SEABED MINING
ARTICLES:

--THE COMMITTEE ONE TREATY PROVISIONS WERE THE PRODUCT OF
A VERY SMALL GROUP WHICH WORKED IN PRIVATE WITH CHAIR-
MAN ENGO. THE MEMBERSHIP OF THIS GROUP IS UNKNOWN BUT
THE INDUSTRIALIZED NATIONS WERE NOT REPRESENTED.

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--THERE IS A ROLE FOR NEGOTIATING 6BIUPTY OETINE RESULOSID
SESSIONS CERTAINLY, BUT THE ACCEPTABLITY ERALLY REPRESEN-
DEPENDENT UPON WHETHER SUCH GROUPS ARE GENERALLY REPRESEN-
TATIVE- THIS WAS NOT THE CASE FOR THE GROUP WHICH PRO-
DUCED THE COMMITTEE ONE TEXT.

--AMBASSADOR RICHARDSON SAID THAT A FAIR PROCESS MUST
INVOLVE BROAD PARTICIPATION AND FULL AND OPEN DISCUSSION

OF THE ISSUES BEFORE PROPOSED ARTICLES ARE PRODUCED.

THE MEETINGS CHAIRED BY MINISTER EVENSEN AT THE CONFERENCE WERE OPEN TO ALL DELEGATIONS AND THE TEXTS RESULTING FROM THOSE MEETINGS, WHILE NOT WITHOUT PROBLEMS, WERE A PRODUCT OF SERIOUS AND RESPONSIBLE DEBATE, AND WERE GENERALLY VIEWED AS A USEFUL BASIS FOR FURTHER NEGOTIATIONS.

-- AMBASSADOR RICHARDSON MADE CLEAR THAT A RESOLUTION OF THE SEABED MINING ISSUES ON TERMS ACCEPTABLE TO BOTH THE DEVELOPED AND DEVELOPING NATIONS, CAN BE ACHIEVED ONLY THROUGH THIS TYPE OF PROCESS. HE SAID THAT THE U.S. GOVERNMENT MUST REVIEW WHETHER SUCH AN AGREEMENT CAN BE ACHIEVED THROUGH THE KIND OF NEGOTIATIONS WHICH HAVE THUS FAR TAKEN PLACE.

2. THE TRANSCRIPT OF AMBASSADOR RICHARDSON'S PRESS CONFERENCE AND THE CLASSIFIED AND UNCLASSIFIED DELEGATION REPORTS CONTAINED IN JULY 27 AIRGRAM (A-3095) WILL FURTHER AMPLIFY THIS MATTER. CHRISTOPHER

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